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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/700,835	11/03/2003	Wan-Tien Chen	03-500-JB	5760

7590 12/16/2004
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EXAMINER

VU, HIEN D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 12/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/700,835

Applicant(s)

CHEN, WAN-TIEN

Examiner

Hien D. Vu

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Art Unit: 2833

1 The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. For example it is unclear what is exactly the structural relationship between the electrical connector and the dust proof plate fixture. Applicant should clarify this manner.

3. Claim 2 is objected to because in line 2, the feature "holes are ... the resin" is unclear.

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lai et al in view of Puerner.

Insofar as the claims can be understood due to the indefiniteness above Lai and Puerner are applied as follows: Lai figs. 3-4 & 10 show a recess (not labeled) in a rear face of a housing 34, two supports (not labeled) oppositely formed on a bottom face of

Art Unit: 2833

the recess, two contacts (not labeled) in opposite side of a dust proof plate, a pair of retainers 40, two pressing elements 42 and two securing elements (not shown) in the connection holes of the cover 32, the housing 34 and the pressing elements 42. Lai does not show the retainers each having a base plate with a through hole. Lai, fig. 1 prior art shows retainers 12 each having a base plate 14 with a through hole. It would have been obvious to one with skill in the art to modify the connector of Lai by replacing the retainers with retainers having base plates with through hole, as taught by the prior art fig. 1, in order to provide more security for the retainers.

As to claim 2, Lai does not show the rear face of the housing having holes for receiving bosses on a rear face of the dust proof plate. Puerner, figs. 1-2 show a rear face of housing 11 having holes 16 for receiving bosses 24 on a rear face of a dust proof plate 10. It would have been obvious to one with skill in the art to modify the connector of Lai by providing the rear face of the housing with holes and the dust proof plate with bosses, as taught by Puerner, in order to guide the plate to the rear of the housing.

As to claim 3, it would have been obvious to provide a bottom of the dust proof plate of Lai with a recess in thickness as shown in Puerner in order to provide access to the tails of the pins. Also it would have been obvious to form the recess to be tapered in order to allow easier mating.

6. Huang, Wang, Yeh, Chikano and Xiang et al are cited for disclosure of electrical connectors having cover means.

Art Unit: 2833

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Hien D. Vu at telephone number (571) 272-2016.

Vu/ds

11/20/04.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hien Vu", written in a cursive style.

**HIEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER**